CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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SUBJECT		Soviet Atomic Energy Program		m	DATE DISTR.	22 April :	L954	
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1.				the Souriet	atomia an			25 X 1
	the Soviet atomic energy program; it is under the Council of Ministers of the USSR. L.P. Beriya formerly exercised top direction of the program,						L.P. Beriya	
		Ty exerc	rised to	p direction of	the progr	ew is in some way		25 X 1
	with t	he atomi	c energ	y program.		.c. is in some wa;	y connected	
2.	the MVD/MGB. Personnel from these ministries, have, however, been assigned to it. In 1946, when the Fourth Directorate of the MGB was abolished, many of its officers, including its chief, MGB Major General P.A. Sudoplatov, were transferred to a new organization responsible for the counterintelligence protection of the atomic energy program. This organization. was under the Council of Ministers. Because of the nature of its work, this organization maintained liaison with the then Second Chief Directorate of the MGB. Some officers of the First Chief Directorate of the MGB were also transferred to the atomic energy organization proper. A number of top men from the MVD were assigned to the program, presumably at Beriya's request. Once transferred, all of these MVD/MGB officers came under Beriya's personal jurisdiction. However, Beriya did not exercise top-level supervision of the MVD and the MGB in the post-war period, as generally believed, because the MVD/MGB were controlled by the Central Committee of the CPSU. In addition to providing personnel, the MVD also supports the atomic energy program by providing convict labor for the central controlled by the central supports the atomic energy program by providing convict labor for the central controlled by the central supports the atomic energy program by providing convict labor for the central controlled by the central supports the atomic energy program by providing convict labor for the central centrolled by the central committee of the central centrolled by the central committee of the central centrolled by the central committee of the central centrolled by the cen						25 X 1	
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٥٠	3. In 1948 or 1949, the well-known physicist Pëtr Kapitsa was unfavorably regarded by the Soviet Government.						bly regarded	25 X 1
						his loyalty	was considered	
	questic	nable.	Kapitsa	had been resp	onsible fo	or basic research	in the field	
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of ruclear physics during World War II, but his work met with no success. It was felt that he was deliberately dragging his feet while the capitalist countries were forging ahead. Kapitsa	25X1
may have been briefly held in custody, as a means of stimulating the progress of his research. a) espionage	25 X 1
the Soviet atomic energy program is financed by a confidential (neglasnyy) allocation. no idea of the size of	25 X 1

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